



Attorney Docket No. ROH-0023

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Kazutaka SHIBATA

Application No.: 09/588,628

Filed: June 7, 2000

For: SEMICONDUCTOR CHIP WITH EXTERNAL CONNECTING TERMINAL

Examiner: N. Ha

Art Unit: 2814 ✓

Confirmation No. 8757

RESPONSE TO SECOND RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 3, 2004, Applicant hereby elects Embodiment II, Figures 6A-6C, encompassing Claims 21 and 22 with traverse.

Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application covering the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search or the subject matter of any one group of claims would necessarily encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP 803 which is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims that are distinct or independent inventions".

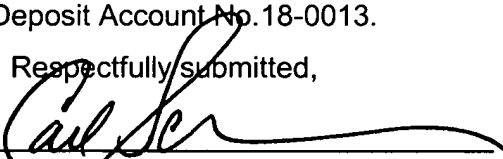
It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply to the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and the duplicative examination by the Patent Office. Receipt of the next Office Action on the merits is awaited.

In the event that any additional fees are required with respect to this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013.

Date: March 2, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Carl Schaukowitch
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